



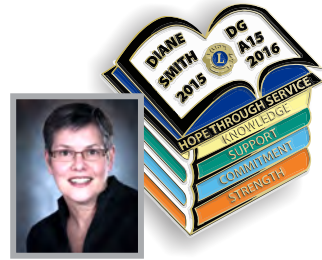
Lions Clubs International

District A-15

News Bulletin

DECEMBER 2015

Lion Bob Pearson, Editor
bulletin@a15lions.org



To all the members of District A15

At this time of year we hear a lot about the holiday spirit. What does that mean to you?

To me it means people are feeling more kindness towards their neighbour, more generosity of heart and are more tolerant of things that might otherwise be bothersome. We demonstrate our softer, gentler selves.

As we approach a New Year and enter into the second half of our Lions year I wish you Peace for the holiday season and I ask you not to let go of the meaning of the "holiday spirit".

*Yours in Lionism,
DG Diane Smith*

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**-Be Proud-
- Serve With Pride-**
Finding New Lions:
The may simply need to
be asked to join

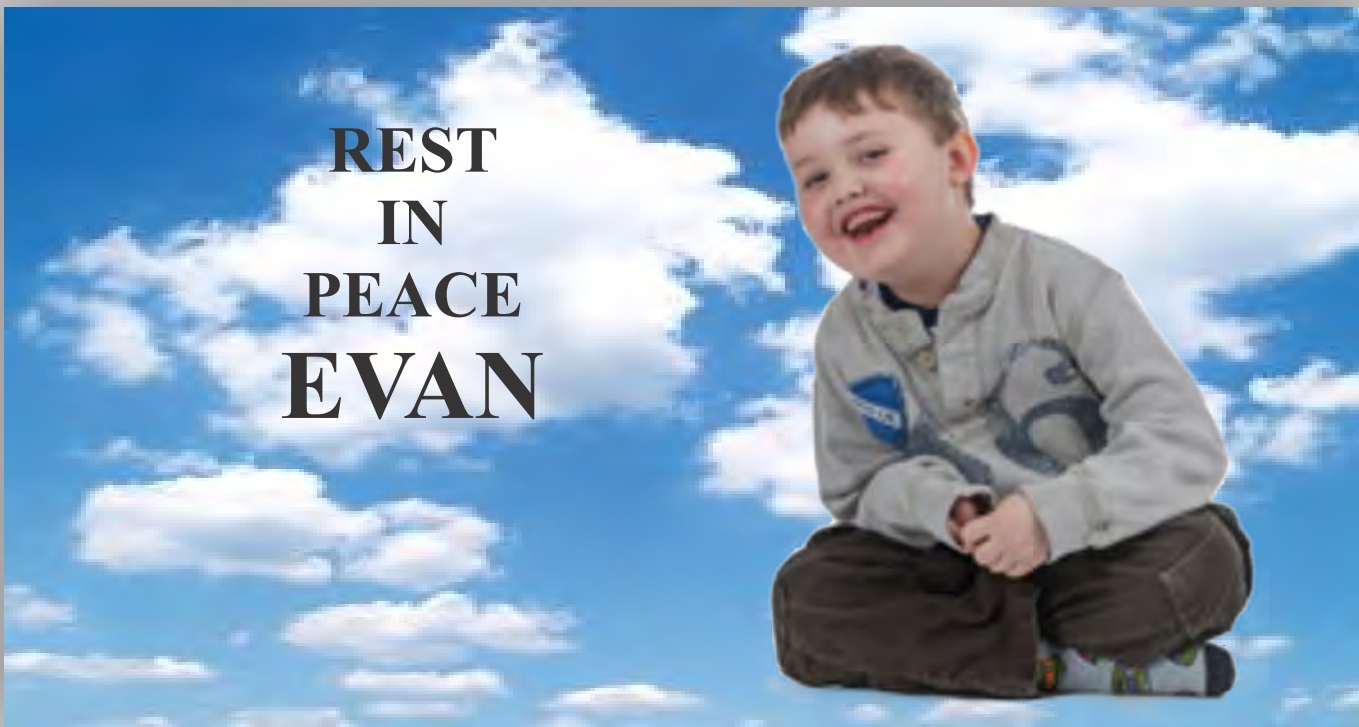
Roar Like A Lion!

Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.





REST IN PEACE EVAN



Occasionally, there comes a light that radiates and illuminates; a light that cannot be extinguished. That light is Evan Leversage of St. George, Ontario. On Sunday December 6th, Evan was released from his earthly body to shine brightly in the hearts of his family, friends and thousands around the world who came to know his story.

Some say he was an angel, placed here to remind us of the important things in life. How else can one explain the phenomenon that was Evan.





INGERSOLL LIONS



Oct 13th 1947, The Ingersoll Lions met for their monthly executive meeting. On the agenda that evening was the finalization for what was to become a signature event with the Ingersoll Lions, the Vets Night Dinner.

Although no official records exist, it is said over two hundred and forty guests attended the first dinner sixty-eight years ago. It took place in the old Armoury on Charles Street in Ingersoll. Buses came from as far away as London, where many vets were still in hospital recovering from war related injuries.



It snowed that evening, but snow could in no way dampen the spirit of the event. There was a colour party of course, and the flags were marched in led by a piper, as happens every dinner. Church and political dignitaries were there, with lots of speeches, but best of all the vets themselves were there in force. This was a chance to give thanks for making it home and to remember the friends who did not. After the speeches ended and the tables were cleared the singing began, led by vets, who as they say, could carry a song. The same vets who for many a year led the singing at subsequent dinners. Times and locations changed but never the singing.

This year on November 4th we finished dinner with the same songs, the power of those songs just as strong today, sixty eight years later, as it was on that first evening so many years ago. The numbers of vets are fewer, the voices weaker, the memories faded, but the power of the singing brings us all back to that year when the Lions held their first dinner to honour those who gave so much of themselves and for those who never returned.



The Fallen, poem by Laurence Binyon:

They shall grow not old, as we that are
left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years
condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the
morning,

We will remember them.





ST. GEORGE LIONS SPLASH PAD PROJECT



Last month St. George Lions reported on their very successful “Wing Nite” in support of their Splash Pad Project. Another important aspect of their fundraising is the involvement of the younger St. George Citizens.

Shown here is how the future leaders and Lions get involved!!!

LYNDEN LIONS



"Every Halloween night the village of Lynden comes alive with ghosts, goblins and all manner of strange creatures. For years the Lynden Lions have taken part in the fun by offering hot cider, apples and chocolate. This year our new trailer made things a whole lot easier and the children gathered round the warm, cosy spot to pick up their goodies. A good time was had by all.



CAMBRIDGE HIGHLANDS LIONS



Lion Marg de Boer presenting
Lions Achievement Award to
Southwood Highland Gr 12
Student Justin Emmanouil
October 23, 2015

PEACE POSTER CONTEST



Peace Poster Chair Lion Victor
Chaux with the club's winner
in the Peace Poster Contest,
Ignacio Chaux, his poster
will be in the District competition.





New Hamburg Lioness Club Peace Poster Contest

THE WATERWHEEL



Peace Poster Finalists

Marion Anderson, our guest judge
with this year's finalist entries.

The larger image was the winner and
will be forwarded to the A15 District competition.



PASSING

November 15th, 2015

Lion Bob Jones

Elora Lions Club

"He Served"



PASSING

November 7th, 2015

Lion Jim Morris

Paris Lions Club

"He Served"



PASSING

November 11th, 2015

Lion Norman Grant

District A4

"He Served"



New Hamburg Lions & Lioness Clubs Joint Meeting November 12th



The Joint Meeting was entertained by the Waterloo Regional District School Board Special Education Choir. The Choir was presented with a Helen Keller Fellowship Award and a \$500.00 donation was made to the Lions Home for the Deaf. It was a most enjoyable evening as shown with the singing and signing of the songs.





USA - CANADA

Lions Leadership Forum

Grand Rapids Michigan



**Lion/Lioness Pat Rowbottom,
Mt. Forest Lions
&
Lions/Lioness Janet Dawson Brock,
K-W Community Spirit Lions
With their well deserved T-Shirts
after the Diabetes Walk Event**



**MDA Council Chair,
Jim Johnson accepting
plaque for MD "A" for
best attendance from
their Multiple District.**



St. George Lions



New Members & Sponsors

L - R: Lion Lyle Fair with Amy Sheffar, Brad Hewitson with Lion Cheryl Hewitson, Lion Chief Wayne Branchaud with Don Jeffrey and Lion Deirdre Branchaud and Rich Barnes with Lion Kevin Martin.

Lions Steve Ferretti & Sam Sheardown welcome new member Joe Monteiro and returning Lion Barry Ames, Barry's father was a Lion for over 30 years.



St. George have implemented a new membership program, New members under 50 do not have to pay for meals in advance, they have the option of paying on a week to week basis to provide the opportunity to attend meeting portion only in conjunction with work and family commitments.



LIONS CLUB OF KITCHENER



Queensmount Arena each year during Oktoberfest in Kitchener Waterloo is transformed into Altes Muenchen Haus. This has been The Lions Club of Kitchener's signature event for almost 50 years. The Club is supported operationally through the support of local church groups, sports teams, and other local service clubs who receive a donation for their time worked. There has also been a long standing working relationship with the Plattsville & District Lions Club who run the Crown & Anchor Game.

Pictured here are PDG OJ Wilura and R9C/A15LCIF Chair Kevin Banfield tapping the keg on opening night to a crowd of apx 1800 people. As you can see Kevin had no trust in OJ's hammering ability as he is using the aid to hold the spigot. OJ did however put the spigot in on the first swing, Prost OJ!



Exeter Lions

Another first for the Exeter Lions Club came on November 21st when they co-hosted the first night time Santa Claus Parade on Main Street in Exeter. The weather was perfect with plenty of snow arriving to create picture post card views. Winners of the best commercial float was Huron Tractor and best non-commercial float was the Exeter Elementary School. Congrats and thanks to everyone who participated. Special thanks to Ms. Mac Photography for the stunning photos.





What is the MDA - DistrictA15 organ registration drive?

It's the way we're asking Ontarians to help spread the word about the importance of registering consent for organ and tissue donation. People are more likely to register if those close to them have registered and have asked them to do the same.

Though most Ontarians believe that organ and tissue donation is a good thing, only about a quarter of us are actually registered. Some communities in Ontario have a registration rate of around 10%. That's why we need your help to encourage those you know to register.

In Ontario, organ and tissue donation is coordinated and managed by Trillium Gift of Life Network. Though everyone is a potential donor, you may be surprised to learn that the opportunity for organ donation is rare, because of the need to sustain a patient on a ventilator. In fact, you are five times more likely to need an organ transplant during your lifetime than to have the opportunity to donate one. On average, only three per cent of hospital deaths occur in circumstances that may lead to organ donation. This is not the case for tissue donation, which can take place in most cases when someone has died, as long as the tissue is suitable for transplantation.

"Because the opportunities for organ donation are relatively rare and the impact is life-saving, it's important that Ontarians give serious thought to organ and tissue donation and register their consent to donate."



Need, Hope and Life-Changing Personal Experiences

If you have any doubts about the need and success of organ donation, please view the four-minute video link below. Produced by the Life Donation Awareness Association of Guelph. District A15 is working close with LDAA to co-ordinate activities for seeking organ registrations.

<http://givingtuesday.ca/partners/life-donation-awareness-association-trillium-gift-of-life-network>

submitted by Lion Bob Rutter
A15 Gift of Life Chair

STRATFORD LIONS 90TH ANNIVERSARY



The Stratford Lions Club recently held their 90th Anniversary. IPDG Lion Tim DeBlock and DG Lion Diane Smith presented a Charter Plaque to Lion Chief Trudy Carter. Lion Bill Robinson received an International President Appreciation Certificate from PID Lion Art Woods.





COPETOWN LIONS



Copetown's theme at a recent meeting was the Lions Dog Guide Program. Shown is Lion Chief Sami Jashan and Lion Dorothy Mamela and Lions Foundation Chair Debbie Cserhalmi with a cheque presentation along with special guests Nancy Chiasson & "Blue" and Cheryl Bauman with "Lola"



Copetown made a recent donation to the 900 CHML Y108 Christmas Tree of Hope Campaign. Lions Dave Biehler & Moe Crickmore are shown with the cheque.



COPETOWN LIONS



The Club held their annual Turkey Roll Nov 21st, it was a grand night with lots of support from members, the community and sponsors alike. Shown above are Lion Chief Sami Jashan, centre & Lion Doug Paddon making the club's contribution to the A15 Bunk Bed Project. Show below are the same two Lions making a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society.





WEST COAST LIONS 10th ANNIVERSARY



Lion Fred Tipple Receives Bruce Murray Fellowship Eight New Members Inducted Lion Erryn Sheppard Honoured

The West Coast Lions Of Grand Bend celebrated their 10th anniversary on October 7th. Eight new members were inducted that night. Lion Fred Tipple received a Bruce Murray Fellowship, Fred has been a member for 56 years. Lion Erryn Sheppard was presented with a Melvin Jones fellowship by charter member Lion Diane Carson, Lion Erryn has raised thousands of dollars for the Purina Walk For Guide Dogs in Grand Bend . Also on hand was Municipal Lampton Shores Mayor Bill Weber who was given a cheque for the remainder of our club's commitment to the Beach Enhancement Program and the club made a pledge to assist in the building of a Community Stage at the beach.



MILVERTON LIONS



In October 2015, Milverton Public School held a grand opening ceremony for their new playground equipment. The fundraising efforts were a true community effort with multiple service clubs, community organizations and individuals supporting this project. Pictured here are the Milverton Public School Council and Past President Lion Joel Phelan from the Milverton Lions Club.

Photo: Debbie Riddell Photography





INGERSOLL & THAMESFORD LIONS PARTNER WITH INGERSOLL KIWANIS



Ingersoll and Thamesford Lions and Kiwanis Sponsor a Youth Choir

One of the key foci of LCI this year is engaging our youth to serve. To this end the Ingersoll and Thamesford Lions clubs and the Ingersoll Kiwanis Club got together to sponsor a Youth Choir. Holly Langhore the director of the Ingersoll Choral Society has, over the past couple of years, gathered some youth together to participate in a yearly benefit concert that is part of the adult ICS choir's program. This year she wanted to expand the program to run the full year adding in two youth concerts. To do this there are not insignificant expenses to buy music and pay the accompanist for practices and the concerts. This is an excellent opportunity for the youth in the choir since Holly has a Masters Degree in conducting so they will learn a great deal about how to properly participate in a high quality choir. On Nov 27 the ICS Youth Choir held their first concert performing a number of Christmas songs both secular and sacred delivering an excellent program. This is an excellent opportunity for youth to learn music and serve the community. The three clubs are proud to support this endeavor of an energetic and youthful choir leader to engage our youth. The three clubs received a nice plug in the program too.





TEAMWORK!!!



L to R: John Goodbun, Mrs. Robin Kish, Jack Whitmore, Lions Jack Broadfoot, John Nymer, Darrel Ford, Dan Fisher, Vern Fleming and Reverend Mark Marshal

Sakura House Hospice Generator Ribbon Cutting

On Monday November 9th a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new backup generator was held at Sakura House with major donors in attendance. This project was conceived in the Thamesford Lions Club and carried out as a joint project with most of the clubs in A15-Zone 37S and some from District A2 Zone 4W. Members of the public and other area organizations also contributed raising funds to the total of \$98,000. This paid for the purchase and installation and set aside enough money for a trust fund to pay for ongoing maintenance. Sakura House is a palliative care facility which in the past would have seen disruptive conditions in the event of a power failure and would have been shut down entirely in the event of a prolonged power outage. PRC Jack Broadfoot holds the scissors.





**KW Community Spirit
Lions Club**

**WATERLOO REGIONAL
CRIME 
STOPPERS
1-800-222-TIPS**

Free Family Skate

Sunday December 20, 2015 12-2 pm

Lions Arena, RIM Park, Waterloo, ON



*Santa will be on the ice
12:15-1 15 pm!*

LIONS

**WISHING YOU & YOURS
ALL THE BEST!!!**



**LION BOB PEARSON
BULLETIN EDITOR**